WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

An apparatus comprising:

a reading unit which reads a code given to a commodity; an individual operator setting information collecting

unit which collects individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;

a setting unit which sets operation standard on the basis of the individual operator setting information corresponding to a specific operator before the operation; and

a monitoring unit which monitors whether the operation relating to the operator conforms to the operation standard or not.

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- The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the personal features are at least the rhythm of the operator in the operation.
- 20 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said setting unit sets the operation standard on the basis of the uniformly determined default setting information regardless of the individual operator setting information or personal features.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a writing unit which writes the individual operator setting information in a portable recording medium corresponding to an operator; and a setting reading unit which reads the individual operator setting information from the portable recording medium before operation,

wherein said setting unit determines the operation standard on the basis of the read individual operator setting information.

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5. The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising an authenticating unit which checks authentication of the operator,

wherein said writing unit and reading unit writes and reads by using the checking of said authenticating unit as the trigger.

6. The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a pronouncing unit which generates a specified sound depending on the state of the operation,

wherein said setting unit sets volume and/or tone information of the specified sound desired by the operator in said pronouncing unit.

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- 7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said writing unit writes the volume and/or tone information in said portable recording medium, said setting reading unit reads the volume and/or tone information from said portable recording medium before operation, and said setting unit sets the read volume and/or tone information in said pronouncing unit.
 - 8. An apparatus comprising:

a reading unit which reads a code given to a commodity by using at least one beam of the plurality of beams; and

a frequent beam specifying unit which specifies the most frequently used beam of the plurality of beams owing to the personal features of the operator in the operation for reading the code,

wherein said reading unit reads the code by using the specified beam preferentially.

- 9. The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a writing unit which writes the information of the beam specified in a portable recording medium corresponding to the operator; and a setting reading unit which reads the information of the beam from said portable recording medium before operation,
- 25 wherein said reading unit reads the code by using the

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beam preferentially on the basis of the information of the

10. The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an authentication unit which checks authentication of the operator,

wherein said writing unit performs writing and said reading unit performs reading with the result of authentication by said authenticating unit as a trigger.

11. A method of reading a code given to a commodity, comprising the operations of:

collecting individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;

setting operation standard on the basis of the individual operator setting information corresponding to a specific operator before the operation; and

monitoring whether the operation relating to the 20 operator conforms to the operation standard or not.

12. A method of reading a code given to a commodity, comprising the operations of:

reading a code given to a commodity by using at least one beam of the plurality of beams; and

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specifying the most frequently used beam of the plurality of beams owing to the personal features of the operator in the operation for reading the code,

wherein the code is read in the reading step by using the specified beam preferentially.

- 13. An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising:
- a reading unit which reads pertinent individual operator setting information from a portable recording medium recording individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;
- a setting unit which sets operation standard on the

 15 basis of the read individual operator setting information;

 and
 - a processing unit which processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.
- 20 14. An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising:
 - a storing unit which stores individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;
- 25 a setting unit which sets operation standard on the

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basis of the stored individual operator setting information;
and

a processing unit which processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.

15. An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

a collecting unit which collects individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;

a setting unit which sets operation standard on the basis of the collected individual operator setting information; and

a processing unit which processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.